Extradition Treaty with Spain

1686. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to sign extradition treaty with Spain to deal with offenders including those committing economic crimes;

(b) if so, by when the treaty is likely to be signed;

(c) the countries with whom India has signed extradition treaty, so far; and

(d) whether any efforts are being made to sign the extradition treaty with all the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Extradition Treaty with Spain has been signed on 20th June, 2002.

(c) India has signed extradition treaties with Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Nepal, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, UK, USA and Uzbekistan.

(d) Conclusion of an extradition treaty is a bilateral process and proposals are initiated after ascertaining the interest of other countries in concluding extradition treaties with India. Proposals for extradition treaties with 28 countries are at various stages of consideration / negotiation.

Indo-Australian ties

1687. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has sought to expand bilateral ties in the field of education, economy, environment and traditional sectors such as mining, etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Australian Foreign Minister during his visit to India in April, 2002 has expressed keen interest in Indian mining;